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2 Teens Arrested, County Juvenile Program Under Investigation

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PENN HILLS, Pa. -- The arrest of two teens charged with harassment prompts an investigation at the Allegheny County juvenile probation division.

Two 17-year-old boys were arrested and charged with harassment after allegedly showing up at a Penn Hills house and threatening another 17-year-old boy. The mother of the threatened boy said she believes that her son was threatened because he blew the whistle on alleged extortion going on in the Homewood Community Intervention Supervision Program.

The boy and his mother were not being identified by police with an ongoing investigation into the program.

She said her son, who is a participant in the program that conducts court-ordered supervision for troubled teens, blew the whistle on a community monitor who works at the Homewood Center on Frankstown Avenue.

The mother said she believes that the two boys visited her house and threatened her son after he discovered the community monitor was demanding money to falsify drug tests.

Jim Reiland, the director of the county's probation division, took action immediately following the allegation.

"My staff is currently investigating an allegation being made by a youth in our Homewood Community Intervention Supervision Program," Reiland said. "Once completed, I will take the appropriate action."

The staffer in question, who has worked as a community monitor for four years, has been removed from the program while the investigation continues.

Reiland said, if warranted, the investigation will be turned over to the Allegheny County police.

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